

Docket No.: 048864-0030



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Katsuaki TAJIMA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 9740
Application No.: 09/656,440	:	Group Art Unit: 2621
Filed: September 06, 2000	:	Examiner: Thierry L. Pham
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS	:	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

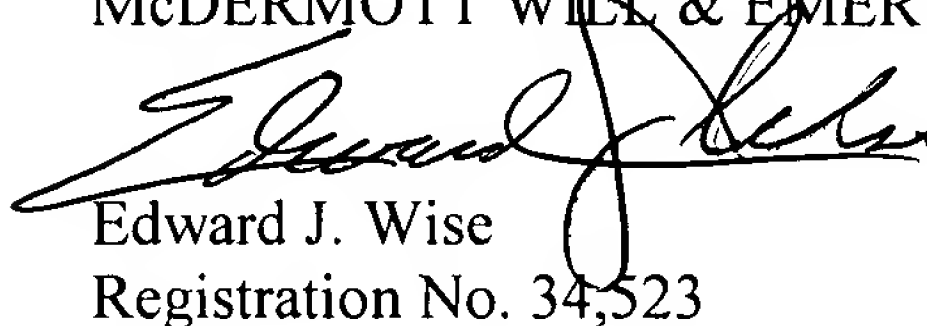
Each reference was first cited in a corresponding foreign application office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign office action is attached for the Examiner's information.

09/656,440

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

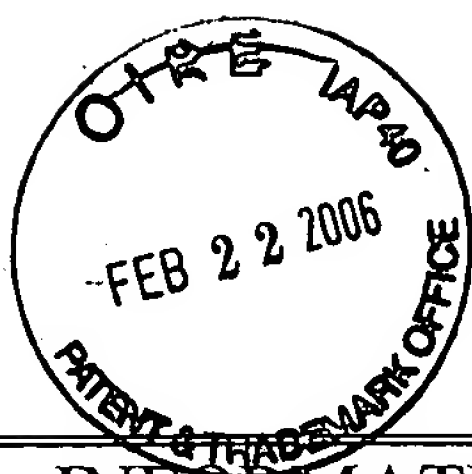
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SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
CITATION IN AN  
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
**048864-0030**SERIAL NO.  
**09/656,440**APPLICANT  
**Katsuaki TAJIMA, et al.**FILING DATE  
**September 06,  
2000**GROUP  
**2621**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US 6,266,152 B1	07/24/2001	Nakajima	
		US 6,344,908 B1	02/05/2002	Aritomi	
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number 4-Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation Yes No
		JP 9-270929	10/14/1997	CANON KK		JAPAN (w/ English Abstract)
		JP 9-270928	10/14/1997	CANON KK		JAPAN (w/ English Abstract)

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.